

TITLE IX – SAFETY FOR NATIVE WOMEN

Sec. 901. The bill makes a number of findings acknowledging the extraordinarily high rates of murder and violence perpetrated against American Indian and Alaska Native women. It states the purpose of the Title IX amendments to VAWA are increase coordination and clarify responsibilities for such crimes among tribal, federal, and state law enforcement. An added purpose is to empower tribal governments with resources and increase/improve the collection of data and information-sharing related to missing and murdered Native women.

Sec. 903. The bill requires updating of the online data entry format for various crime-related Federal databases, including the NCIC, to incorporate a new data field for the victim's Tribal enrollment or affiliation information. The Attorney General is required to formally consult with Indian Tribes about improving tribal data relevance and access to Federal databases, and to produce a report regarding a plan of action to improve access.

Sec. 904. The bill directs DOJ and Interior to consult with Indian Tribes to review existing law enforcement and justice protocols pertaining to missing and murdered Indians, recommend and revise existing protocols, and develop new ones as necessary, to serve as guidance to law enforcement. It requires the Attorney General to make these protocols publicly available and to distribute them to law enforcement agencies. The bill also requires the Attorney General to require local U.S. Attorneys to develop written standard protocols to investigate cases of missing and murdered Indians, and requires implementation of such protocols.

Sec. 905. The bill requires the Attorney General to report annually to Congress on missing and murdered Indian women and provide recommendations.

Sec. 906. The bill expands on VAWA 2013, which clarified that Indian tribes have jurisdiction over non-Indians who commit crimes of domestic violence in Indian country. **This section would authorize the prosecution of the following additional crimes: child violence; sexual violence; stalking; trafficking; and “related conduct”.** Under existing law, non-Indians can be prosecuted in tribal court for domestic violence, dating violence, or a criminal violation of a protection order; this jurisdiction is reaffirmed in this bill. Related conduct refers to the prosecution of non-Indians who have committed domestic violence or dating violence in Indian country or who have violated a tribal protection order, who resist or interfere with the prevention, detection, investigation, arrest, pretrial detention, prosecution, adjudication, or sentencing in relation to such offenses, and who carry out such resistance or interference in relation to certain tribal officers or agents.

Sec. 907. This bill authorizes \$3M / fiscal year for 2019-2023, for the Tribal Access Program, to enhance the ability of tribal justice entities to enter information into and obtain information from Federal criminal information databases. This provision repurposes funding allocated under VAWA 2005 to create a tribal sex offender and protection order registry.

Sec. 908. The bill adds a new federal misdemeanor offense for violation of a tribal exclusion order. A person convicted of this offense could receive a \$5,000 fine and up to one year in prison. Persons who could be excluded from tribal land under an exclusion order would be those convicted of a violent crime under tribal law or for the sale or distribution of controlled substances. The bill would require service of the order and knowing violation of its terms.